

Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INRE-00 NSAE-00 USSS-00 /031 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 197

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3922

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: UN, ME

SUBJ: SYRIAN CHARGES OF US INVOLVEMENT

ASST. SYG URQUHART TELEPHONED AMB. BENNETT AT 11:15
AM TO PASS ON FOLLOWING REPORT:

SYRIAN DEP FONMIN ISMAIL HAD COME IN TO SEE SYG EALDHEIM
EARLIER THIS MORNING TO STATE FOLLOWING AS QUOTED FROM SYG
REPORT:

QUOTE: SYRIAN GOVT HAS REASONS TO SUSPECT THAT US PLANES AND
PILOTS ARE PARTICIPATING WITH THE ISRAELI AIR FORCE IN THE
BATTLE OVER SYRIA. SYRIAN FORCES HAVE DOWNED TWO PLANES
WHICH HAVE NO ISRAELI INSIGNIA QUOTE. SYRIAN DID NOT ALLEGE
US OR ANY OTHER MARKINGS.

RUQUHARD SAID ISMAIL'S APPROACH HAD BEEN LOW-KEY THROUGHOUT, HE
DID NOT ATTEMPT ANY SHOW OF INDIGNATION OR OTHER EMOTION AND
SECRETARIAT WAS SPECULATING WHY HE HAD INSISTED ON PERSONAL
APPEARANCE ON QUIET SUNDAY MORNING. BENNETT SUGGESTED HE
WAS PROBABLY ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AND WAS PUTTING THE
CHARGE ON THE OFFICIAL RECORD FOR POSSIBLE LATER USE IN THE
SC OR ELSEWHERE.

BENNETT EMPHASIZED THAT CATEGORICAL DENIALS HAD ALREADY
BEEN ISSUED MORE THAN ONCE BY USG TO RUMORS OF US PARTICIPATION
IN MIDDLE EAST WAR AND IT HAD BEEN MADE EMPHATICALLY CLEAR
AGAIN YESTERDAY BY DEPT SPOKESMAN THAT NO RPT NO US

PLANES OR PILOTS WERE TAKING PART IN CURRENT ACTION. URQUHART

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SAID HE AND SYG FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS. HE WAS OF OPINION THAT
SYRIAN DEP FON MIN WAS ALSO AWARE OF US DENIALS AND KNEW
USG NOT INVOLVED.

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Message Attributes

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DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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